Disability Network Southwest Michigan
POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: **Independent Living Specialist**

Position General Summary: This position provides independent living assessment, coordination and training for adults and young adults in Kalamazoo and surrounding counties. The IL Specialist works closely with Michigan Rehabilitation Services vocational counseling staff to remove independent living barriers to employment, as well as many other partner agencies. The IL Specialist also provides general advocacy and information and referral services in their area of service to meet consumer's needs to live as independently as possible in the community.

Essential Responsibilities and Duties:
- Work closely with Michigan Rehabilitation vocational counselors to meet employment outcomes.
- Conduct independent living assessments to determine consumer needs
- Provide coordination of services for consumers and educate re: community resources available to meet needs
- Provide IL training in the area of transportation, housing, financial management, self care, etc..
- Promote self advocacy in consumers
- Practice person centered planning
- Document services and communicate regularly with referral sources
- Maintain consumer files and complete all documentation requirements
- Teach group & 1:1 sessions on a variety of IL topics
- Assist with community presentations and workshops as needed
- Participate in collaborative community projects on disability issues/needs

Essential Functions:
Motivated, independent worker n
Must be able to travel independently
Good written and oral communication skills
Comfort with public speaking
Problem solving and organizational skills
Knowledge of community resources and disability issues

Qualifications
Bachelor's degree in social work, rehabilitation, occupational therapy, or a related human service field. Associates degree with experience considered. Understanding and commitment to the Independent Living philosophy and disability issues.

People with disabilities encouraged to apply.

Full Time Position   __**X**__   Part Time Position   _____